

## **Art Anderson Bio**

Art Anderson was first introduced to Toastmaster by his wife, Sue. Sue needed to polish her speaking skills for a conference she was presenting which gave Art an excellent introduction to Toastmasters. He first joined with the Kent Evening Toastmasters in 2011 in Kent, Washington. In this club Art held several offices and worked diligently on his CL, CC, and AC. In 2014, Art and Sue moved from Washington to Illinois through a corporate move and started seeking a new club to join. Art Joined Collinsville Toastmasters in 2015 and has been there ever since. Again, Art has held several offices in Collinsville and is a Charter Member of Riverbend Toastmasters. Overall office roles include Sergeant at Arms, Secretary, Vice President Education, and President. Art's next speech work is to complete Effective Coaching Level 5 and Dynamic Leadership Level 5.

Toastmasters has been instrumental in enabling Art to speak up in career settings where it had been much more comfortable sitting on the sidelines and observing. Through Toastmasters, Art has gained the confidence and the drive to "sit at the table", it is no longer comfortable to sit on the sidelines. If Art has something to say, someone else inevitably is too nervous to bring it up; similarly, if a question is asked, someone else inevitably is too nervous to ask. Having this new outlook is recognized and appreciated by all involved.

Outside Toastmasters, Art and Sue have four adult children all living in the Puget Sound areas of Washington State; additionally, they have been blessed with three granddaughters and one grandson. Visits are never a long weekend or just a week, typically they last at least three weeks. Art enjoys golf with a few favorite courses in the area. Art and Sue were married on January 1, 2011, yep 1-1-11 which means this past January they celebrated 11 years.